



MIAMI BEACH

City Commission Meeting

**City Hall, Commission Chambers, 3rd Floor, 1700 Convention Center Drive
November 30, 2005**

[Click on back arrow to return to Main Menu](#)

Mayor David Dermer
Vice-Mayor Richard L. Steinberg
Commissioner Matti Herrera Bower
Commissioner Simon Cruz
Commissioner Luis R. Garcia, Jr.
Commissioner Saul Gross
Commissioner Jose Smith

City Manager Jorge Gonzalez
City Attorney Murray H. Dubbin
City Clerk Robert E. Parcher

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ATTENTION ALL LOBBYISTS

Chapter 2, Article VII, Division 3 of the City Code of Miami Beach entitled "Lobbyists" requires the registration of all lobbyists with the City Clerk prior to engaging in any lobbying activity with the City Commission, any City Board or Committee, or any personnel as defined in the subject Code sections. Copies of the City Code sections on lobbyists laws are available in the City Clerk's Office. Questions regarding the provisions of the Ordinance should be directed to the Office of the City Attorney.

Meeting called to order at 11:13:43 a.m.

Times based on the digital recording in the City Clerk's Office.

Michael Aller, Director of Tourism and Protocol, wished all a healthy and Happy Holiday Season on behalf of the City. He informed everyone that after the inductions, the Mayor and Commissioners are inviting everyone to the Mayor's Conference Room for cake and coffee and introduced the Mayor of Miami Beach, David Dermer.

Mayor David Dermer explained that one of the reasons a candidate is sworn in the day after an election is to bring the community back together immediately after the election and stated that a new Commissioner is on the dais today and the Commission will be losing former Commissioner Jose Smith. At this point, Jose Smith received a standing ovation. Mayor Dermer asked Commissioner Smith to say a few words.

Commissioner Smith stated that to be a representative of Miami Beach has been a wonderful experience for him and he thanked everyone. He congratulated Jerry Libbin, his wife Rachel, and his children. He added that he is sure Commissioner Libbin is going to do a great job and wishes him all the best.

REGULAR AGENDA**11:16:51 a.m.**

- R7A A Resolution Adopting The Certificate Of The Results Of The November 29, 2005 Run-Off Election For The City Of Miami Beach, Adjourning The Canvassing Board For Said Run-Off Election, And Declaring Candidates Elected.
(City Attorney's Office)

ACTION: Resolution No. 2005-26049 adopted. Motion made by Commissioner Smith; seconded by Commissioner Bower; Voice vote: 7-0. **Robert Parcher to handle.**

11:55:38 a.m.

- R7A2 A Resolution Electing Commissioner Richard L. Steinberg As Vice-Mayor For A Term Commencing On November 30, 2005, And Terminating On February 28, 2006, Or On Such Date When A New Vice-Mayor Is Thereafter Elected.
(City Clerk's Office)

ACTION: Resolution No. 2005-26050 adopted. Motion made by Commissioner Bower; seconded by Commissioner Libbin; Voice vote: 7-0. Robert Parcher to handle.

11:18:24 a.m.

Robert Parcher, City Clerk, administered the Oath of Office to Jerry Libbin, Elected Commissioner in Group I.

Commissioner Jerry Libbin explained that the election process is extremely humbling and a tremendous experience. He wished former Commissioner Jose Smith the best in future endeavors and looks forward to working with him on important issues for the City. He congratulated all his opponents and encouraged Gabrielle Redfern to continue working in creating more bike paths in the City; Dennis Ward to continue moving the City forward in the areas where he looks for improvement. He publicly thanked Joe Fontana for his endorsement and stated that this was one of the major differences in the run-off election. He stated that Alex Annunziato was an outstanding candidate and a quality gentleman, and he looks forward to working with him for the community on all the issues that are important to him as well. He thanked the voters of Miami Beach and he is very appreciative of the opportunity given him to participate in this leadership forum. He also thanked the Co-Chairs of his campaign Norma Quintero and Louis Wien who provided guidance and expertise, Alan Lipps as Co-Treasurer of his campaign, and Alan Hall, Finance Chairman. He recognized and thanked his family, his wife Raquel, Ida, his mother-in-law and his children, Moshi, David and Sari. He acknowledged his fantastic campaign staff led by his Political Consultant, Keith Donner, his Campaign Manager Courtney Whitney and David Angel. In addition he also acknowledged and thanked the organizations that endorsed his candidacy, particularly The Miami Herald, The Miami Sun Post, the Dade Cultural Alliance, Save Dade, Miami Beach Firefighters, CWA, The Realtors Association of Greater Miami and the Beaches, and all the volunteers who worked so hard.

These are the goals for the next four years which were part of his campaign:

- 1) Create a world-class cultural campus on Miami Beach.
- 2) Life safety issues and the need of additional lifeguards to protect residents and tourists.
- 3) Hurricane preparedness, looking at all options particularly under grounding wiring.
- 4) Safer and cleaner environment in our streets and sidewalks.
- 5) Re-energize and accelerate neighborhood improvements.

- 6) Enrichment programs for students in Miami Beach public schools.
- 7) Amnesty for residents that may have open permits on their property and review the notification process.

11:30:31 a.m.**Robert Parcher, City Clerk, administered the Oath of Office to Richard Steinberg, Re-Elected Commissioner in Group III).**

Vice-Mayor Steinberg thanked his wife, his parents, his sister, and his many friends and supporters. He also thanked the staff of the Mayor's Office and the entire City's staff for making his job much easier. He especially thanked the citizens of Miami Beach who are an excellent citizenry. He listed his priorities and accomplishments as he looked back at the past four years.

Priorities and accomplishments:

- 1) Revitalizing the tourism industry including the Panhandling Ordinance.
- 2) Resolve traffic issues such as Bay Link Project and 63rd Street flyover project.
- 3) Parking issues including the adoption of the Valet Parking Ordinance.
- 4) Concurrency and overdevelopment issue.
- 5) Revitalization of North Beach.
- 6) Improving the school system in Miami Beach (protecting the Kid-care program and clinics, and proposed that the unclaimed homeowner dividend funds be used to enhance education in Miami Beach).
- 7) Strengthening the Human Rights Ordinance in Miami Beach.
- 8) Support campaign finance reform legislation.
- 9) Banning corporate contributions.

Additionally, he proposed the following:

- 1) Vote Miami Beach initiative.
- 2) Broadcasting Commission Meetings in both English and Spanish.
- 3) Proposed a Wi-Fi project on Lincoln Road.
- 4) Hurricane Preparedness Task Force.

Vice-Mayor Steinberg commended and thanked former Commissioner Jose Smith for his friendship and welcomed newly elected Commissioner Libbin.

11:46:15 a.m.**Robert Parcher, City Clerk, administered the Oath of Office to Saul Gross, Re-Elected Commissioner in Group II).**

Commissioner Saul Gross explained the difference four years make, from when he first ran for office and now, being elected without opposition and having the benefit of having served the public for four years. He explained that it is a very exhilarating job and the rewards are incredible, such as the ability to help residents solve problems, and making the City a better place. Unfortunately, sometimes people ask to help them do things that cannot be done because sometimes these things are not in the City's control. He added that he has found the vision and leadership for the City to be very exciting.

He focused his efforts on the following:

- 1 Preservation and expanding historic districts, which makes Miami Beach unique.
- 2 Continue to keep the scale and manageability of the City down as much as possible.
- 3 To improve the area of South Pointe Park, the Master Plan and to resolve litigation.

4 Human Rights action taken by the City Commission.

Commissioner Gross thanked the City Commission for functioning well together as a whole. He stated the residents must feel this way also because the City is going in the right direction and things are moving well, which is the reason why no one ran against Mayor Dermer, Commissioner Stenberg or himself. He stated that each member of the City Commission brings a different talent and referring to his colleagues, he stated that the whole is definitely greater than the sum of its parts. He wished Jose Smith well and stated that he will miss him. He looks forward to working with Commissioner Libbin and wished him the best. He thanked his wife Jane and his son for allowing him to serve the City and he looks forward to serving four more years.

11:54:16 a.m.

Robert Parcher, City Clerk, administered the Oath of Office to David Dermer, Re-Elected Mayor).

Mayor David Dermer thanked his mother for being there time after time and Kitty for all her support, as well as his three children and his colleagues. He welcomed Commissioner Libbin. He commended and thanked Jorge Gonzalez, City Manager, for doing a great job. He explained that a lot of the administrative policies have been implemented in a very effective and efficient manner and he looks forward to working with him for the next two years.

Mayor Dermer read the poem "If" by Rudyard Kipling, which refers to what is like being a Mayor.

Meeting adjourned at 11:59:29 a.m.

End of Regular Agenda